

PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In Art Unit _____

Examiner:

Applicants:

Eric A. Metz, et al

Serial No.:

Filed:

For:

TRAFFIC SIGNAL OPERATION
DURING POWER OUTAGES

Pasadena, California
July 15, 2003

DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Assistant Commissioner of Patents

Arlington, VA 22313

Sir:

Examiner's attention is directed to the following
patents and publications, copies enclosed.

U.S. Patent 2,166,721 to Jeffers discloses traffic signal systems, and more particularly to such a system embodying means operable, in the event one of the lights in the signal becomes burned out, to disconnect the signal from regular operation, and to display either a steady or a flashing caution signal.

U.S. Patent 3,596,239 to Hata, et al discloses a system provided for controlling the operation of traffic control systems at an intersection in the event of certain malfunctions in signal operation.

U.S. Patent 3,629,802 to Clark, et al discloses a system for traffic signal controllers is provided to detect the occurrence of coincidence command signals that would cause right-of-way signals to be displayed for conflicting or intersecting traffic lanes or traffic paths or courses.

U.S. Patent 3,648,233 to Clark discloses a load control error detector system having at least one energizable load.

U.S. Patent 3,778,762 to Jarko, et al discloses a monitoring device for use with a traffic control signal

system in which the monitor is adapted to detect when a conflict of vehicle or pedestrian proceed signals occurs and switch the system to emergency operation.

U.S. Patent 3,902,156 to Hill discloses a circuit provided for monitoring the signals displaying of conflicting signals to two or more traffic paths.

U.S. Patent 4,024,528 to Boggs, et al discloses a remote switching system in which operation of a load is controlled by signals generated at a remote location and transmitted along an existing AC power lights.

U.S. Patent 4,135,145 to Eberle discloses an error detecting circuit which sensed the operating states of a plurality of traffic signal lights.

U.S. Patent 4,383,240 to Staats, Jr. discloses a recorder of the states of a traffic control system which stores and visually displays the currant operational state of the system.

U.S. Patent 4,566,008 to Powers, et al discloses an apparatus and method for a circuit which is connected


in series between the call signal output of a vehicle detector and the call signal input of a traffic controller is disclosed.

U.S. Patent 5,327,123 to Heimann, et al discloses a traffic control system for use at a roadway intersection, the system including traffic control lights, a light flasher structure, and a plurality of load switches electrically coupled with the lights via relay structure to which the flasher structure is connected.

Section 6 CONFLICT MONITORS pages 45-56.

Copies of the above patents and publications are enclosed. They are believed not to teach, suggest or otherwise render obvious the invention as disclosed or claimed herein.

Respectfully submitted,


William W. Haefliger
Attorney for Applicant
Registration No. 17,120
(213) 684-2707

WWH:hk

Docket 12,535

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Substitute for form 1449/PTO

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE
STATEMENT BY APPLICANT**

(Use as many sheets as necessary)

Complete if Known

Sheet 1 of 1

Application Number	
Filing Date	
First Named Inventor	Eric A. Metz et al
Art Unit	
Examiner Name	
Attorney Docket Number	12,535

U. S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Document Number	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
		Number-Kind Code ² (if known)			
		US- 2,166,721	07-18-1939	Jeffers	
		US- 3,596,239	07-27-1971	Hata et al	
		US- 3,629,802	12-21-1971	Clark et al	
		US- 3,648,233	03-07-1972	Clark	
		US- 3,778,762	12-11-1973	Jarko et al	
		US- 3,902,156	08-26-1975	Hill	
		US- 4,024,528	05-17-1977	Boggs et al	
		US- 4,135,145	01-16-1979	Eberle	
		US- 4,383,240	05-10-1983	Staats, Jr.	
		US- 4,566,008	01-21-1986	Powers et al	
		US- 5,327,123	07-05-1994	Heimann et al	
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FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Foreign Patent Document	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages Or Relevant Figures Appear	T ⁶
		Country Code ³ Number ⁴ Kind Code ⁵ (if known)				

Examiner
SignatureDate
Considered

*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant. ¹ Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). ² See Kinds Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at www.uspto.gov or MPEP 901.04. ³ Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). ⁴ For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. ⁵ Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST. 16 if possible. ⁶ Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language translation is attached.

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Substitute for form 1449B/PTO INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT <i>(Use as many sheets as necessary)</i>				Complete if Known	
				Application Number	
				Filing Date	
				First Named Inventor	Eric A. Metz et al
				Art Unit	
				Examiner Name	
				Attorney Docket Number	12,535
Sheet	1	of	1		

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Examiner Signature		Date Considered	
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1 Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). 2 Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached. This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.98. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 120 minutes to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. **SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.**

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